

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 01501 281404Z

47

ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 FEA-01 EB-07 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07

NEA-10 /113 W

----- 059155

R 261659Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4766

INFO USUN 641

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

US MISSION GENEVA 829

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 1501

ROME FOR FAO

MONTREAL FOR ICAO

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, PFOR, US, SP

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: INFO ON GOS ATTITUDES

REF: STATE 037591

1. PURSUANT TO INSTRUCTION IN REFTEL, EMBASSY SUBMITS FOLLOWING
INFO IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS RAISED UNDER PARA 7.

A. SPAIN'S MULTILATERAL OBJECTIVES. ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL
OBJECTIVES OF THE NEW GOS IS CLOSER RELATIONS WITH EUROPE AND
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PAGE 02 MADRID 01501 281404Z

EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS AND A NONDISCRIMINATORY UNIVERSALISTIC

POLICY WITH RESPECT TO DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES. SPAIN'S ENERGY, THEREFORE WILL BE FOCUSED PRIMARILY ON THE EC. COUNCIL OF EUROPE, AND NATO.

SECONDLY, SPAIN'S DEFINITIVE WITHDRAWAL FROM THE SAHARA FEB 28, 1976 WILL END SPAIN'S DECOLONIZATION OF ITS FORMER COLONIES, CONSEQUENTLY, SPAIN WILL BE LESS DIRECTLY INVOLVED WITH THE UN ON THIS ISSUE. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE POSSIBILITY OF SPANISH CANDIDACY FOR SOME IMPORTANT UN COMMITTEE OR ORGANIZATION CANNOT BE EXCLUDED. SPAIN WITHDREW ITS CANDIDACY FOR THE PRESIDENCY OF THE UNGA IN FAVOR OF LUXEMBOURG PREMIER THORN IN 1975 AND, FOLLOWING FRANCO'S DEATH, IT MAY FEEL ENTITLED TO SOME COMPENSATION FOR ITS COOPERATION WITH THE OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES IN 1976.

B. SPAIN AND BLOCK VOTING IN THE UN. HERETOFOR, SPAIN HAS BEEN OFTEN IDENTIFIED WITH THE THIRD WORLD, IN PARTICULAR FOR ITS SUPPORT OF THE ARAB COUNTRIES AND THE LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES, IN VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL FORA. TWO DEVELOPMENTS ARE LIKELY TO CHANGE THIS PERSPECTIVE: (1) SPAIN'S BECOMING OF AGE AS AN INDUSTRIAL POWER, AND (2) THE FOCUS ON EUROPEAN INTEGRATION. SPAIN'S PARTICIPATION IN THE INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY (IEA) AND SUBSEQUENTLY THE CIEC IS A MAJOR POLITICAL STEP INASMUCH AS SPAIN FOR THE FIRST TIME TOOK ITS PLACE AMONG THE WESTERN INDUSTRIALIZED POWERS THEREBY CREATING A CERTAIN DISTANCE WITH THE UNDERDEVELOPED COUNTRIES. THE RECENT GOVT STATEMENT ON FOREIGN POLICY AND OTHER STATEMENTS BY AUTHORIZED GOVT SPOKESMEN HAVE UNDERSCORED SPAIN'S ORIENTATION TOWARDS EUROPE, OFTENTIMES OMITTING ANY REFERENCE TO LATIN AMERICAM

THE GOS IS LIKELY TO CONTINUE STRESSING IT SPECIAL TIES WITH THE ARAB WORLD BUT HAS ALREADY INDICATED THAT IT INTENDS TO ESTABLISH FORMAL RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL AT AN OPPORTUNE TIME. AT THE SAME TIME, WE SEE NO LIKE-LIHOOD THAT SPAIN WILL CHANGE ITS POSITION IN FAVOR OF A PALESTINE STATE. ABSENCE OF ARAB SOLIDARITY WITH ITS PROBLEMS IN THE SAHARA HAS INTRODUCED MORE REALISM IN GOS POLICY WITH RESPECT TO THE ARAB COUNTRIES AND THE THIRD WORLD. AS LONG AS SPAIN WAS OSTRACIZED IN EUROPE IT HAD GREATER INCENTIVE TO SEEK SUPPORT IN THE THIRD WORLD. CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MADRID 01501 281404Z

THIS IS ALL CHANGING IN THE POST FRANCO ATMOSPHERE IN WHICH SPANISH INTEREST ARE BEING MORE CLOSELY IDENTIFIED WITH THOSE OF WESTERN EUROPE.

C. GOS CONTROL OF IT INTERNATIONAL DELEGATIONS. THE MFA IS UDERSTAFFED TO KEEP TRACK OF EVERY DEVELOPMENT IN MAJOR INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS. FOR THIS REASON, ITS REPS HAVE MORE LEEWAY, AND OFTENTIMES OPERATE WITHOUT SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS, IN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES. THE

EMBASSY HAS EXPERIENCED A NUMBER OF INSTANCE IN WHICH ITS DEMARCHES TO THE MFA ON SPECIFIC ISSUES FACED BY THE UNGA INITIATED A PROCESS OF GOS CONSULTATION ABOUT ITS POSITION WHICH HAD NOT BEEN DEFINED UP TO THE TIME OF THE EMBASSY'S REPRESENTATION. THE MFA IS FULLY CAPABLE OF DRAWING UP INSTRUCTIONS IN A TIMELY FASHION WHEN IT HAS SUFFICIENT LEAD TIME TO DEAL WITH AN ISSUE. THANKS TO THE WELL-PREPARED ADVANCE MATERIALS PROVIDED BY THE DEPT AND USUN ON THE KOREAN ITEM THE EMBASSY WAS ABLE TO GET THE GOS TO SUPPORT OUR POSITION ALL ALONG THE LINE. HAD WE BEEN PROVIDED THE SAME DEGREE OF BACKGROUND WITH BETTER TIMELINESS ON THE ZIONISM ISSUE AND THE ITEMS ON GUAM AND PUERTO RICO. IT WOULD PROBABLY HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE TO OBTAIN EARLY GOS SUPPORT FOR OUR POSITION, INSTEAD OF LAST MINUTE SWITCHES TO NON-VOTING.

D. INDEPENDENCE OF GOS REPS. OWING TO THE CIRCUMSTANCES DESCRIBED UNDER C. THE SPANISH PERM REP IN NEW YORK, FOR EXAMPLE, DOES HAVE A CONSIDERABLE DEGREE OF INDEPENDENCE IN DEFINING GOS POLICY. GOS HEADS OF DELEGATION ARE EXPECTED TO BE SUFFICIENTLY FAMILAR WITH BASIC GUIDELINES OF GOS POLICY IN ORDER TO DRAW UP POSITIONS ON SPECIFIC ISSUES. THE ISSUES. THE PRESENT GOS PERM REP, DE PINIES, HAS A PERSONAL REPUTATION OF BEING MORE INDEPENDENT THAN MOST BESIDES BEING PRONE TO ADOPT ANTIAMERICAN POSITIONS NOTWITHSTANDING HIS PERSONAL LIKING FOR LIFE IN NEW YORK.

E. RECEPTIVENESS TO U.S. REPRESENTATIONS. U.S. REPRESENTATIONS ON SPECIFIC ISSUES HAVE USUALLY RESULTED IN HAVING SPAIN EITHER SUPPORT BY ITS VOTE A POSITION DEFENDED BY THE U.S. OR ABSTAIN ON A VOTE IF IT INVOLVED A CHOICE WHICH MIGHT COMPROMISE ITS POSITIONS WITH THE THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES. THE GOS HAS RARELY ASKED THE USG THROUGH THE EMBASSY FOR SUPPORT FOR ITS POSITION ON

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PAGE 04 MADRID 01501 281404Z

MULTILATERAL MATTERS, NOT EVEN ON THE RECENT RESOLUTION ADOPTED WITH RESPECT TO THE DECOLONIZATION OF THE SAHARA.

2. IN SUMMARY, POST FRANCO SPAIN PROBABLY CAN BE EXPECTED TO BE A LITTLE MORE RECEPTIVE AT LEAST OVER THE NEXT YEAR TO U.S. AND EUROPEAN REPRESENTATIONS AND LESS INCLINED TO ADJUST ITS POSITIONS TO THOSE OF THE THIRD WORLD IN MULTILATERAL MATTERS. IT IS EMBARKED ON A COURSE WHICH IS DESIGNED TO INTERGRATE SPAIN MORE CLOSELY WITH THE WESTERN WORLD AS A DEVELOPED COUNTRY; IT HAS ALREADY RESULTED IN DIMINISHED EMPHASIS ON IT TRADITIONAL TIES WITH THE ARAB COUNTRIES AND LATIN AMERICA. STABLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, ANNUAL REPORTS, CASP
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CollinP0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MADRID01501
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760076-0401
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760211/aaaaaimg.tel
Line Count: 167
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 37591
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 MAR 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <30 MAR 2004 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

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Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: INFO ON GOS ATTITUDES
TAGS: PORG, PFOR, US, SP
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006